

**CLAIMS**

1-3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 10 wherein one or more guides direct the pivot bar to easily slide into pivot member.

5-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 13 wherein the opening has a first ledge and a second ledge and said side support member rides along said first ledge and said pivot member is placed in said opening and pivot member rests on second ledge.

8-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) An improved balance shoe said balance shoe for retaining a window sash in a window jamb channel comprising:

a balance shoe housing having a base section, said base section having at least one channel and at least one side support member slidably movable in said channel from a first position to a second extended position, said channel having a first retaining means and a second retaining

means extending from a first surface of said channel, said side support member having a retaining arm that moves between said first and second retaining means as said side support member moves from said first position to said second position;

    said balance shoe housing having a pivot member, said pivot member having a generally oval-shaped head portion and wherein said oval-shaped head portion engages at least one of said side support members as said oval-shaped portion rotates and forces said side support member of said balance shoe housing to slide in said channel from said first position to said second extended position wherein such that when said balance shoe is in a window sash said side support member is in contact with at least one side wall surface of said window jamb channel when said side support member is in its second extended position and said window sash is tilted.

11. (Previously Presented) The balance shoe according to claim 10 wherein said side support member has an inner arcuate surface which articulates with said oval head portion as said oval-shaped head portion rotates.

12. (Previously Presented) The balance shoe according to claim 11 wherein said side support member has a serrated surface which engages said window jamb channel when said side support member is in an extended position.

13. (Currently amended) An improved balance shoe comprising a balance shoe housing having a

base section, said base section of said housing having an opening for receiving and retaining a pivot member said pivot member being adapted to engage a pivot bar attached to a window sash, said opening having a guide that directs the pivot bar into said pivot member, said guide having a diagonal wall, said diagonal wall having first and second side diagonal walls on opposite sides thereof to guide said pivot bar into said pivot member, said pivot member having a generally oval head portion, and wherein said oval head portion of said pivot member forces at least one side support member of said housing outwardly into contact with at least one sidewall surface of a window jamb channel when said window is tilted and wherein said base has a first surface on one side of said base and a second surface on the opposite side of said base and a sidewall between said first and second surfaces, said surfaces having at least a pair of receiving channels, said receiving channels extending from said first surface to said second surface to permit a retaining arm of the side support member to move freely in a first direction and a second direction in said receiving channel when said oval head portion of said pivot member rotates when said window is tilted.

14. (Currently amended) An improved balance shoe said balance shoe for retaining a window sash in a window jamb channel comprising:

a balance shoe housing having a front outer surface and a rear inner surface and a pair of opposed side surfaces connecting said front and rear surfaces, a base section formed by a portion of said front outer and rear inner surface, said front outer surface having at least one channel, said channel having a first retaining means and a second retaining means extending from a surface of said

channel, said channel having at least one side support member slidably movable in said channel from a first position to a second extended position, said side support member having a retaining arm that moves between said first and second retaining means as said side support member moves from said first position to said second position, said retaining arm being positioned against said first retaining means when a window is in a vertical position and against said second retaining means when said window sash is in a tilted position;

    said balance shoe housing having a pivot member, said pivot member having a generally oval-shaped head portion and wherein said oval-shaped head portion engages at least one of said side support members as said oval-shaped portion rotates and forces said side support member of said balance shoe housing to slide in said channel from said first position to said second extended position wherein such that when said balance shoe is in a window sash said side support member is in contact with at least one side wall surface of a window jamb channel when said side support member is in its second extended position and said window sash is tilted.

15. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 10 wherein said balance shoe has a first open portion and a second open portion, said second open portion having a rear inner surface an interior top wall and an interior bottom wall and first and second interior side walls, said rear inner surface and said interior walls forming a receiving means for housing a stability member, said interior top wall having a first recess at one end thereof and a second recess at the opposite end thereof.

16. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 10 wherein said housing has an upper diagonal cut and a first and second side diagonal cuts on opposite sides thereof to guide said pivot into said pivot member.

17. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 10 a third retaining means and fourth retaining means on a second inside surface of said channel and wherein said side support member has a second retaining arm; said first retaining arm being between said first retaining means and said second retaining means and said second retaining arm being between said third retaining means and said fourth retaining means.

18. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 10 wherein said pivot member has a front surface and a back surface said back surface having a retaining tab to hold said pivot member in position in said balance shoe housing.

19. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 10 wherein said side support member has a recess on each side of said retaining arm.

20. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 10 wherein said housing has a recess formed by a rear inner surface and interior sidewalls at opposite ends of said rear inner surface and a separate stability member retained in said recess, said recess having a first region and a

second region said first region being deeper than said second region, said stability member having a first bottom edge that fits into said first region and second bottom edge that fits into the second region.

21. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 20 wherein said stability member has a first slot and a pair of diagonal slots on opposite sides of said first slot.

22. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 21 wherein said stability member has a first and second a retaining member extending therefrom, said retaining members being received by slots in said housing.

23. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 13 wherein said balance shoe has a first open center portion and a second open portion, said second open portion having a rear inner surface an interior top wall and an interior bottom wall and first and second interior side walls, said rear inner surface and said interior walls forming a receiving means for housing a stability member, said interior top wall having a first recess at one end thereof and a second recess at the opposite end thereof.

24. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 13 wherein said receiving channels have a first retaining means and a second retaining means on one inside surface of said channels and

a third retaining means and fourth retaining means on a second inside surface of said channels and wherein said side support member has a first and second retaining arm; said first retaining arm being between said first retaining means and said second retaining means and said second retaining arm being between said third retaining means and said fourth retaining means.

25. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 13 wherein said pivot member has front surface and a back surface said back surface having a retaining tab to hold said pivot member in position in said balance shoe housing.

26. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 13 wherein said side support member has a recess on each side of said retaining arm.

27. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 13 wherein said housing has a recess formed by a rear inner surface and interior sidewalls at opposite ends of said rear inner surface and a separate stability member retained in said recess, said recess having a first region and a second region said first region being deeper than said second region, said stability member having a first bottom edge that fits into said first region and second bottom edge that fits into the second region.

28. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 27 wherein said stability

member has first slot and a pair of diagonal slots on opposite sides of said first slot.

29. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 28 wherein said stability member has side edges, said side edges having a first and second retaining member extending therefrom, said retaining members being received by slots in said housing.

30. (Currently amended) An improved balance shoe for retaining a window sash in a window jamb channel comprising:

a balance shoe housing having a front outer surface and a rear inner surface and a pair of opposed side surfaces connecting said front and rear surfaces, an upper section and a base section said upper section having a recessed portion, said recessed portion having a rear inner surface an interior top wall and an interior bottom wall and first and second interior side walls, said rear inner surface and said interior walls forming a receiving means for housing a stability member, said recess portion having a first region and a second region said first region being deeper than said second region, said stability member having a first bottom edge that fits into said first region and second bottom edge that fits into the second region, said stability member having a first slot and a pair of diagonal slots on opposite sides of said first slot, said stability member having a first and second a retaining member extending therefrom, said retaining members being received by recesses in said housing;

said base section having at least one channel, said channel having extending from a surface of

said channel a first retaining means and an second retaining means, said channel having at least one side support member slidably movable in said channel from a first position to a second extended position, said side support member having a retaining arm that moves between said first and second retaining means as said side support member moves from said first position to said second position, said retaining arm being positioned against said first retaining means when said window sash is in a vertical position and against said second retaining means when said window is in a tilted position;

    said balance shoe housing having a pivot member, said pivot member having a front surface and a back surface said back surface having a retaining tab to hold said pivot member in position in said balance shoe housing, said pivot member having a generally oval-shaped head portion and wherein said oval-shaped head portion engages at least one of said side support members as said oval-shaped portion rotates and forces said side support member of said balance shoe housing to slide in said channel from said first position to said second extended position wherein said side support member is in contact with at least one side wall surface of said window jamb channel when said side support member is in its second extended position and [such] said window sash is tilted.

31. (Previously presented) An improved balance shoe comprising a balance shoe housing having a base section, said base section of said housing having an opening for receiving and retaining a pivot member said pivot member being adapted to engage a pivot bar attached to a window sash, said opening having a guide that directs the pivot bar into said pivot member, said guide having a diagonal wall said diagonal wall having first and second side diagonal walls on opposite sides

thereof to guide said pivot bar into said pivot member, said pivot member having a generally oval head portion, and wherein said oval head portion of said pivot member forces at least one side support member of said housing outwardly into contact with at least one sidewall surface of a window jamb channel when said window is tilted and wherein said base has a first surface on one side of said base and a second surface on the opposite side of said base and a sidewall between said first and second surfaces, said surfaces having at least a pair of receiving channels, said receiving channels extending from said first surface to said second surface to permit a retaining arm of the side support member to move freely in a first direction and a second direction in said receiving channel when said oval head portion of said pivot member rotates when said window is tilted, wherein said receiving channels have a first retaining means and a second retaining means on one inside surface of said channels and a third retaining means and fourth retaining means on a second inside surface of said channels and wherein said side support member has a first and second retaining arm; said first retaining arm being between said first retaining means and said second retaining means and said second retaining arm being between said third retaining means and said fourth retaining means.

32. (Currently amended) The balance shoe according to claim 31 wherein said balance shoe has a first open center portion and a second open portion, said second open portion having a rear inner surface an interior top wall and an interior bottom wall and first and second interior side walls, said rear inner surface and said interior walls forming a receiving means for housing a stability member, said interior top wall having a first recess at one end thereof and a second recess at the opposite

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end[.] thereof.

33. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 31 wherein said pivot member has front surface and a back surface said back surface having a retaining tab to hold said pivot member in position in said balance shoe housing.

34. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 31 wherein said side support member has a recess on each side of said retaining arm.

35. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 31 wherein said housing has a recess formed by a rear inner surface and interior sidewalls at opposite ends of said rear inner surface and a separate stability member retained in said recess, said recess having a first region and a second region said first region being deeper than said second region, said stability member having a first bottom edge that fits into said first region and second bottom edge that fits into the second region.

36. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 35 wherein said stability member has first slot and a pair of diagonal slots on opposite sides of said first slot.

37. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 36 wherein said stability member

has side edges, said side edges having a first and second retaining member extending therefrom, said retaining members being received by slots in said housing.

38. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 31 wherein the opening has a first ledge and a second ledge and said side support member rides along said first ledge and said pivot member is placed in said opening and pivot member rests on second ledge.

39. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 31 wherein said side support member has an inner arcuate surface which articulates with said oval head portion as said oval-shaped head portion rotates.

40. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 39 wherein said side support member has a serrated surface which engages said window jamb channel when said side support member is in an extended position.

41. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 31 wherein said balance shoe has a first open portion and a second open portion, said second open portion having a rear inner surface an interior top wall and an interior bottom wall and first and second interior side walls, said rear inner surface and said interior walls forming a receiving means for housing a stability member, said

interior top wall having a first recess at one end thereof and a second recess at the opposite end thereof.

42. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 31 wherein said housing has an upper diagonal cut and a first and second side diagonal cuts on opposite sides thereof to guide said pivot into said pivot member.

43. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 42 wherein said side support member has a recess on each side of said retaining arm.

44. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 43 wherein said housing has a recess formed by a rear inner surface and interior sidewalls at opposite ends of said rear inner surface and a separate stability member retained in said recess, said recess having a first region and a second region said first region being deeper than said second region, said stability member having a first bottom edge that fits into said first region and second bottom edge that fits into the second region.

45. (Previously presented) The balance shoe housing according to claim 44 wherein said stability member has first slot and a pair of diagonal slots on opposite sides of said first slot.

46. (Previously presented) The balance shoe according to claim 45 wherein said stability member has a first and second a retaining member extending therefrom, said retaining members being received by slots in said housing.